

MINUTES

MONTANA HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES 57th LEGISLATURE - REGULAR SESSION JOINT APPROPRIATIONS SUBCOMMITTEE ON HEALTH & HUMAN SERVICES

Call to Order: By **CHAIRMAN DAVE LEWIS**, on February 8, 2001 at 8:00 A.M., in Room 152 Capitol.

ROLL CALL

Members Present:

Rep. Dave Lewis, Chairman (R)
Sen. John Cobb, Vice Chairman (R)
Rep. Edith Clark (R)
Rep. Joey Jayne (D)
Sen. Bob Keenan (R)
Sen. Mignon Waterman (D)

Members Excused: None.

Members Absent: None.

Staff Present: Robert V. Andersen, OBPP
Pat Gervais, Legislative Branch
Lois Steinbeck, Legislative Branch
Sydney Taber, Committee Secretary
Connie Welsh, OBPP

Please Note: These are summary minutes. Testimony and discussion are paraphrased and condensed.

Committee Business Summary:

Hearing(s) & Date(s) Posted: Human and Community Services -
Energy and Commodity
Assistance, 2/8/2001 Public
Testimony Human and Community
Services

Executive Action: None.

{Tape : 1; Side : A; Approx. Time Counter : 1.4-6.4}
Joe Mathews, Administrator of Disabilities Services Division,
Department of Health and Human Services, went over the responses to questions from Committee members **EXHIBIT(jhh32a01)**. If the Division were to receive an extra \$500,000, the Division would

give a flat 1% provider rate increase for Disabilities Division providers beginning in FY02 to build the infrastructure; would replace \$57,439 removed from base budget for the FMAP change since the reduction would result in a loss of federal matching funds; and reduce the waiting list by 11 individuals beginning in the FY02.

Mr. Mathews went over draft language options for tracking removal of people from institutions to the community for a new DP 66. The Division also wrote some language on using general funds to reduce the waiting list, improve direct care wages, and provide provider wage increase and/or fully fund the waiting list.

The Department has been trying to identify other programs that could use Title XX funds and transfer general funds to the Developmental Disabilities (DD) programs so that it could be matched with Medicaid. At this time, **Mike Hanshew** has said that Senior and Long Term Care might be able to use some Title XX.

{Tape : 1; Side : A; Approx. Time Counter : 7.8-18.9}

SEN. COBB asked if the money cut from Child Support was used here. **CHAIRMAN LEWIS** said that those funds were used to pay for maintenance of SEARCHS which freed up money in the Office of Technology that went here.

Lois Steinbeck, Legislative Fiscal Division (LFD), went over Eastmont issues. The idea was to reconfigure Eastmont as a nursing home type facility targeted toward Medicaid eligible prisoners needing that level of care. While many prisoners have problems associated with aging, they are also younger than the 65 age limit to meet Medicaid eligibility. Two issues impacting feasibility of this plan would be numbers of eligible prisoners and any conflicts in nursing home regulations and prisoner security.

{Tape : 1; Side : A; Approx. Time Counter : 19}

Gail Gray, Director of the Department of Health and Human Services (DPHHS), suggested that when a team was developed to look at this issue representation of staff and community be involved in the process. Much of this will depend on the use of the Xanthopoulos building, but the fourth DUI population is another group that could be looked at for Eastmont if the Department of Corrections is not able to use the Xanthopoulos building as a treatment center.

{Tape : 1; Side : A; Approx. Time Counter : 20.5}

SEN. WATERMAN suggested that Corrections look at the cottage at Eastmont as a treatment center in eastern Montana for fourth DUI

offenders. **SEN. KEENAN** explained the proposed fourth time DUI offender alcohol treatment program.

SEN. KEENAN and **SEN. WATERMAN** updated the Committee further on the Xanthopoulos building and its possible use as a fourth time DUI treatment center and SB 264 allowing the Department to do the transfers that it wants to use the money for co-existing illness.

Ms. Steinbeck reviewed the amendments. The funds have to be expended by state approved chemical dependency (CD) programs or licensed hospitals for detoxification. The use of CD funds as proposed does not offset general fund cost to Mental Health Service Division. It appears to introduce a new program.

Ms. Steinbeck explained that Medicaid caseload cost estimates due to inpatient hospitalization increased between \$5 and \$10 million general fund over three years FY01, FY02, and FY03. The Department has been requested to provide the new numbers in the supplemental so that it can be reviewed. The new estimates on the Mental Health Services Plan are \$2.5 million lower in the 2003 biennium than is currently in the Executive Budget. The current proposal is that CHIP ineligible kids will lose their mental health services plan benefits effective March 1. The Executive will be proposing a Kids Light program for about \$700,000 per year including outpatient services, in-home services, and medications which would cost about \$250,000 from March 1-July 1.

The Department plans to use the excess funds to plan for development of the regional system, and for community incentive grants to help keep the state hospital population down.

{Tape : 1; Side : B; Approx. Time Counter : 0.8-}

SEN. COBB asked if the Medicaid costs have gone up how it will affect the supplemental. **Ms. Steinbeck** said that the effects will be felt across three years. **Director Gray** added that there is a plan so that the Department will not need increased supplemental for this year. It will affect the next two years.

SEN. COBB commented that one way to balance the budget was the intergovernmental transfer, but another way would be to eliminate the outreach for Medicaid and CHIPS.

{Tape : 1; Side : B; Approx. Time Counter : 4.6}

Mary Ann Wellbank, Child Support Enforcement Division (CSED) went over a letter to the Committee explaining the financial and other impacts of the closure of a regional office on Child Support Services **EXHIBIT(jhh32a02)** **EXHIBIT(jhh32a03)**. **Ms. Wellbank** explained that most of the CSED budget is personal services, so the only thing that can be offered to cut is personal services.

She outlined the problems and the financial impact it would have if the Committee should choose to cut CSED staff. Because CSED is a legal-based system, quality control is a major source of concern should caseloads be increased as they would need to be. Caseload increases could cause collection problems, problems with incentive funds, and client complaints. It would cause loss of revenue and imposition of fines should their be quality control issues on the data reliability with the federal government.

Ms. Wellbank asked the Committee to reconsider closure of a regional office and to free up the Division's ability to manage the money and the restricted funds that have been put the budget.

REP. JAYNE asked **Ms. Wellbank** why she offered this as the item to cut without giving it the consideration that she was today. **Ms. Wellbank** said that when they looked for areas to cut, it had to be personal services. Mainly, they did not look carefully at the incentive loss and the impact further down the line.

Ms. Wellbank concluded that she would prefer an across the board cut rather than elimination of a regional office.

{Tape : 1; Side : B; Approx. Time Counter : 18.8-27.3}

Pat Gervais, LFD, distributed an overview on the general guidance for TANF **EXHIBIT(jhh32a04)**. She went over the four purposes and definitions of assistance, non-assistance, and needy. **Ms. Gervais** went over the services that are included or not included in the definitions of assistance and non-assistance. In answer to a question from **SEN. KEENAN**, **Ms. Gervais** responded that the state may define needy, but it must apply an income standard up to 200% of poverty and may apply a resource standard.

Mr. Hudson explained that the Division currently uses one definition of needy. SB 77, the Division requested the authority to operate a program for non-assistance and would propose using 150% of poverty for that program. The programs that are not cash benefits would use up to 150% of poverty as eligibility since they are not entitlements. Right now to be eligible for the cash benefit or other services, it is 95.5% of poverty.

{Tape : 1; Side : B; Approx. Time Counter : 27.4-50.5}

Ms. Gervais explained maintenance of effort (MOE), the source of funds, the base year on which funding was based, how the funds may and may not be used, and the standards that the state must use to determine eligibility for programs. She explained that federal Temporary Assistance for Needy Families (TANF) funds cannot be used for medical services, but that state MOE can be. Further, state funds used as match in other programs may not be used as MOE unless specifically allowable by regulations. TANF

funds can be used for transfers to Title XX and Child Care Development Funds. The money from prior year TANF grants can only be used for services meeting the definition of assistance. All assistance payments are currently being funded out of prior year funds, providing current year funds for more flexible spending purposes.

{Tape : 2; Side : A; Approx. Time Counter : .4}

SEN. WATERMAN asked if TANF funds could be used for family preservation services. **Ms. Gervais** responded that they would be as long as there was some objective criteria to determine eligibility.

Responding to questions from **REP. JAYNE**, **Mr. Hudson** explained that the state receives \$44 million per year in the block grant and spends \$15 million a year for MOE expenditures. In FY00 the Department is carrying forward \$26 million of unspent federal funds, programmed to be used in a measured manner and totally expended by 2005.

{Tape : 2; Side : A; Approx. Time Counter : 5.4-19.0}

Ms. Steinbeck went over highlights of a separate state program **EXHIBIT(jhh32a05)**. She went over the requirements, funding, eligibility, services available, and restrictions for separate state programs funded by state MOE for TANF. She went over the policy issues that need to be considered should the Committee decide that it would like to go this route.

The Executive Budget is based on the assumption that the state will be allowed to keep unexpended TANF funds and that the grant will be authorized for the same amount. Should the Committee decide to establish a separate program for non-CHIP eligible children, should the program require a state plan amendment and if that amendment were submitted before February 28, mental health costs could be covered from January 1, which would offset more general fund in the supplemental bill. This requires appropriating some of the unexpended TANF block grant. If the unused TANF were expended for programs, it would be a one time use.

{Tape : 2; Side : A; Approx. Time Counter : 19.1-22.4}

Mr. Hudson commented that creating a state only program with MOE and using TANF money to backfill the MOE, the TANF money cannot be taken out of the old money. Any diversion of MOE is taken directly out of FAIM Phase II and any other innovative ideas, not out of the carryover. The carryover is limited to benefits which is what the Department plans to use it for. **Ms. Gervais** added that the plan proposed by the Department uses carryover funds for assistance and current year funds for the more creative purposes.

PUBLIC TESTIMONY ON HUMAN AND COMMUNITY SERVICES DIVISION

{Tape : 2; Side : A; Approx. Time Counter : 24.5-28.2}

REP. TOM FACEY, HD 67, Missoula, distributed exhibits NP 16 from 1999 showing how much would be spent in FAIM **EXHIBIT(jhh32a06)** and a pie chart showing how much was actually spent **EXHIBIT(jhh32a07)**. He expressed concern over the disparity between the 1999 session proposal to spend \$23 million and the \$1.6 million that was spent. He encouraged the Department and Committee to concentrate on programs for community proposals for training for high wage jobs, post secondary education, and housing.

{Tape : 2; Side : A; Approx. Time Counter : 28.3-30.9}

Mr. Hudson responded that Exhibit 7 was a misrepresentation of how the NP 116 (1999 session) funds were spend, NP 116 included child care, the reserve fund, employment and training contracts, and MOE.

{Tape : 2; Side : A; Approx. Time Counter : 31-51.4}

Kate Cholewa, Center for Policy Analysis and Community Change, handed out an analysis of how the TANF and MOE funds should be spent **EXHIBIT(jhh32a08)**. **Ms. Cholewa** stated that the Department did not expend the funds as it was directed in the 1999 bill. She expressed concern with the language in the current proposal and concerns that the unspent money will be taken by the federal government. Finally, she went over the people's plan as expressed at the forums including money for the housing trust fund, training for higher wage jobs, post-secondary education, and a child support assurance pilot program.

{Tape : 2; Side : B; Approx. Time Counter : 3.9-9.1 }

Briana Kerstein, representing Montana People's Action and the Montana Income Support Collaborative, presented a brief handout **EXHIBIT(jhh32a09)** for the People's Plan for FAIM II. She addressed the issue of sanctions and concerns that FAIM II as proposed does not reflect the community input. She asked the Committee to consider the voices of working families when deciding how best to help the families. She asked that the FAIM II proposals support specific programs: post secondary education, job training, affordable housing, and child support assurance.

{Tape : 2; Side : B; Approx. Time Counter : 9.2-17.6}

Wendy Young, representing WEEL, presented her testimony **EXHIBIT(jhh32a10)** and presented further testimony from several focus groups **EXHIBIT(jhh32a11)**, **EXHIBIT(jhh32a12)**, **EXHIBIT(jhh32a13)**, and **EXHIBIT(jhh32a14)**. She requested that the Committee direct the Department to eliminate barriers to training

and education and that it support affordable housing, Parents as Scholars, and the Child Support Assurance Pilot. She commented that the Department had increased the barriers to parents trying to pursue education and did not follow the recommendations of the focus groups (Exhibit 11), child care (Exhibit 12), case management (Exhibit 13) and (Exhibit 14). She urged the Committee to support education, access to training, child support assurance, support housing proposals, and the proposals supported by the grass roots.

{Tape : 2; Side : B; Approx. Time Counter : 17.8-39.1}

Jonathon Windy Boy, member of Chippewa-Cree Tribal Council and Chairman of the Montana-Wyoming Tribal Leaders Council, addressed the lack of adherence to the Government-to-Government consultation proclamation, the high FAIM caseload of tribally enrolled participants, and the high sanction rate of American Indians which puts strain on tribal budgets **EXHIBIT(jhh32a15)**. Bonuses were not distributed to the Tribal government although the American Indian people still hold the highest caseload.

He stated that the Tribal Councils are going to request \$14 million from the reserve that is currently in place in the TANF program and that the request is based on the high case load, highest jobless rate, lowest economic development and opportunity for development in Montana. This money will be used for family support to enhance the cultural stability of tribal traditions, economic development, and program sustainability.

Mr. Windy Boy went over the tribal transitional plan. He mentioned that two tribes had been cut without council consultation and requested that such actions be eliminated without prior consultation. He expressed the need for funding across the board so that every effort in transition is afforded the Tribes. He went over the re-authorization concerns of the Tribes and further stated that the need for FAIM is still high for the Tribes.

Mr. Windy Boy concluded his remarks with an expression of concern that the state does not adhere to the Government-to-Government proclamation in consultation with the Tribes as sovereign governments.

In response to questions from **SEN. KEENAN, Toni Plummer, Cherish Our Indian Children**, stated that the Flathead Indian Reservation extends over three counties and that a small portion is in Flathead County, so an individual could reside in Flathead County and live on the reservation.

{Tape : 2; Side : B; Approx. Time Counter : 46.3-52.5}

{Tape : 3; Side : A; Approx. Time Counter : 0.5-4.1}

Mr. Alvin Windy Boy Sr., Chippewa-Cree Tribal Chairman and member of the Chippewa-Cree Tribe, recounted a story for the Committee which made the point that the Tribal leaders contend with much that the Committee does not. The Tribes want the State to recognize that it is in partnership with them.

{Tape : 3; Side : A; Approx. Time Counter : 4.2-8.7}

Irvin Carlson, member of the Blackfeet Tribal Business Council, supported the testimony of **Mr. Windy Boy.** He said that Government-to-Government is an important issue to the tribes, and the Tribes need to be brought to the table at the start. He expressed the importance of the Tribes receiving their fair share of the appropriation and concerns that the Department may eliminate the food distribution program, which is helpful to his people.

{Tape : 3; Side : A; Approx. Time Counter : 8.9-15.7}

Patricia Iron Cloud expressed the need for unity and the need for the \$14 million to help close the gap for people on the reservations.

{Tape : 3; Side : A; Approx. Time Counter : 15.8-19.0}

Leo Kennerly, Chairman of the Economic Development Committee and member of the Blackfeet Tribal Council, expressed support for the testimony of **Mr. Carlson.** **Mr. Kennerly** expressed the need for respect for Government-to-Government relations and that the Tribes should be involved in the decision making process.

{Tape : 3; Side : A; Approx. Time Counter : 19.1-26.1}

Vincent Goes Ahead, Vice Chairman for the Crow Tribe, expressed support for Government-to-Government relations with the State of Montana.

{Tape : 3; Side : A; Approx. Time Counter : 26.2-38.4}

Teresa Wall McDonald, a member of the Confederated Salish and Kootenai Tribes and the tribe's TANF director, went over the Salish and Kootenai TANF program and the services offered by the Salish-Kootenai tribe. She presented her case for the Committee and requested that the Committee set aside a portion of the reserve for the Tribes since 51% of those receiving FAIM assistance in Montana are Native American. She also stressed the importance of the food program for the Tribes.

{Tape : 3; Side : A; Approx. Time Counter : 38.5-40.4}

Gary Newman, a member of the Confederated Salish and Kootenai Tribes, reminded the Committee that the Tribes had contributed

money into the TANF program and would like consideration in spending the money.

{Tape : 3; Side : A; Approx. Time Counter : 40.7-45.1}

Roxanne Guanault, an enrolled member of the Fort Peck Assiniboine-Sioux Tribe, a tribal council member, and the chairman of Law and Justice, expressed concerns that the state receives \$44 million from the federal government and \$33 million in match from the state to fund assistance when there is no sustainability. She expressed the belief that when the Tribes are economically successful the State of Montana will be enriched as well.

{Tape : 3; Side : A; Approx. Time Counter : 45.7}

Kenneth Helgeson, co-chairman of the Fort Belknap First Nations Youth Council, wants the tribes to have a fair share of the funding.

{Tape : 3; Side : A; Approx. Time Counter : 47.5-51.7}

{Tape : 3; Side : B; Approx. Time Counter : 0.1-1.8}

Keith Weasel, chairman of the Fort Belknap First Nations Youth Council, read his written statement in support of continuing the food program **EXHIBIT(jhh32a16)**. He stressed that in poor, rural areas with high unemployment, the food program is an important form of assistance to many people. He urged the Committee to respect the Tribes and to make the right decision on assistance programs.

{Tape : 3; Side : B; Approx. Time Counter : 1.9-2.3}

Jessica Stiffarm, member of the Fort Belknap First Nations Youth Council, presented an outline of the First Nations Youth Council **EXHIBIT(jhh32a17)**.

{Tape : 3; Side : B; Approx. Time Counter : 3.6-7.8}

Judy Shelby, member of Montana People's Action in Billings, requested that the Committee support the People's Plan for FAIM II. She asked that the Committee target money specifically to the Montana Housing Trust Fund. Montana People's Action believes that the TANF reserve should be expended to direct resources for low-income families not to expand the Department of Public Health. One of the goals of FAIM II must be to move low-income people out of poverty through home ownership. She further stated that FAIM Phase II as proposed by the Department does not reflect community input and requested that the Committee fund child support assurance, education and training, and child care.

{Tape : 3; Side : B; Approx. Time Counter : 9.7-18.1}

Nancy Reuter, a child care provider, presented written testimony from **Laura Pippen EXHIBIT(jhh32a18)** on the importance of child

care funding and read her own statement in support of early child care funding **EXHIBIT(jhh32a19)**.

{Tape : 3; Side : B; Approx. Time Counter : 19.4-41.}

Dr. Julie Bullard, a member of the Montana Early Childhood Advisory Council and representative of the Early Childhood Education Consortium, presented testimony on the importance of subsidized childcare for low-income Montana families **EXHIBIT(jhh32a20)**. **Dr. Bullard** stressed the importance of quality childcare facilities which provide intellectual stimuli to promote brain development in early childhood. She also presented information on the wages, benefits, and turnover in Montana childcare centers, and presented specific suggestions on improving the childcare situation in Montana **EXHIBIT(jhh32a21)**. She urged the Committee to draw down the match and ensure that providers are paid more money.

{Tape : 3; Side : B; Approx. Time Counter : 41.5 - 51.6}

{Tape : 4; Side : A; Approx. Time Counter : 0.3-.8}

Pam Carlson, Supervisor for Work Program in Lewis and Clark County, spoke on behalf the Work Program. She went over the barriers that low-income individuals experience in trying to find work. She discussed the barriers that individuals in poverty may experience which will prevent them from success in the work place. She went over the services offered by the work program and explained that the work program is held to a high standard of accountability and receives annual funding based on performance. **Ms. Carlson** concluded with a request that the Committee fund case management providers who are an essential part of success in helping people to become self supporting.

{Tape : 4; Side : A; Approx. Time Counter : 1.0-3.7}

Greg Olson, Director of Programs for Helena Industries, discussed the partnership that Helena Industries has with the Career Training Institute (CTI) and suggested that other TANF and FAIM providers get together in partnerships.

{Tape : 4; Side : A; Approx. Time Counter : 3.8 - 12.3}

Roger Wright, owner of a for-profit day care center in Great Falls, expressed the need for support for child and day care centers. He stressed the importance of continuing education for quality child care providers and further testified that 45% of the child care he provides is funded through the Department of Health and Human Services child care assistance. He urged the Committee to support the funding of these programs.

{Tape : 4; Side : A; Approx. Time Counter : 12.4-16.4}

Jennifer Tracy, a young mother with two children, expressed the importance of child care for her family. Without the assistance of the child care subsidy program and other assistance programs, she would not have been able to provide for her family. She urged the Committee to support the child care assistance program for families like hers.

{Tape : 4; Side : A; Approx. Time Counter : 16.5-22.0}

Mary Danforth, Montana Training Consortium, handed out several exhibits **EXHIBIT(jhh32a22)** **EXHIBIT(jhh32a23)** and expressed her gratitude for the state funding of programs that train people for work. The Career Training Institute in Helena, Career Futures in Butte, Miles City Community College, and Columbia Falls serve statewide to train people for high wage jobs. **Ms. Danforth** praised the Department and said that the funding is making a difference in peoples' lives.

{Tape : 4; Side : A; Approx. Time Counter : 22.4-35.0}

Monica Tvetene, Human Resources Council District in Billings, discussed the importance of organizations such as hers which are work operators providing intensive case management **EXHIBIT(jhh32a24)**. The state has an investment in knowledge, experience, time, and effort in the programs and cautioned against dispersing these resources into the welfare offices. **Ms. Tvetene** went over barriers that her clients experience in trying to find work. She urged the Committee to build in long-term intervention for those individuals that are multi-generational in the welfare system.

{Tape : 4; Side : A; Approx. Time Counter : 35.1-38.9}

Kate Kahn, Director of WEEL and former welfare recipient, expressed the importance of expending the unspent TANF money in Montana on post secondary education, training, child care assurance, affordable housing and other adequate work supports. She appealed to the Committee to work with her organization to invest in programs to move people out of poverty and ensure the re-authorization of the TANF funding.

{Tape : 4; Side : A; Approx. Time Counter : 39.0-46.0}

Carlin Gerish, a Post Secondary Education (PSE) student and FAIM participant, read her statement **EXHIBIT(jhh32a25)** **EXHIBIT(jhh32a26)** which expressed her gratitude for the support programs that will make it possible for her to rise to self support and asked that the Committee continue support for families like hers.

{Tape : 4; Side : A; Approx. Time Counter : 46.2-50.2}

Ginger Kiehl, child care provider in Miles City, expressed concern that not funding the budget or under funding it will cause parents to seek day care in un licensed and unsafe day care facilities or even home alone in order to work.

{Tape : 4; Side : A; Approx. Time Counter : 50.5}

{Tape : 4; Side : B; Approx. Time Counter : 0.2-1.1}

Judy Smith, WORD, asked the Committee to support changes to FAIM II which offer high wage training, child support assurance, post secondary education, and other initiatives from the People's Plan.

{Tape : 4; Side : B; Approx. Time Counter : 1.2-1.6}

Rebecca Moog, Montana Women's Lobby, endorsed support for child support assurance and urged the Committee to support the pilot program.

{Tape : 4; Side : B; Approx. Time Counter : 1.7-9.9}

Ann Tribby, Coordinator of DEAP Child Care Resource and Referral program in Miles City, read her written statement

EXHIBIT(jhh32a27) and that of Nevada Bennett **EXHIBIT(jhh32a28)** and submitted other letters to the Committee in support of the child care budget in the Early Childhood Services Program **EXHIBIT(jhh32a29)** and an annual report from Child Care Resource and Referral Network **EXHIBIT(jhh32a30)**.

{Tape : 4; Side : B; Approx. Time Counter : 9.0-14.6}

Colette Box, director of a child care facility in Kalispell, urged the Committee to fully fund the Early Child Care Block Grant program.

{Tape : 4; Side : B; Approx. Time Counter : 14.9}

Christine Amundson, Montana Chapter of National Association of Social Workers, presented her statement **EXHIBIT(jhh32a31)** and asked the Committee to support the services that support services that support children and families, support work providers, and support post secondary education in fulfilling work requirements.

{Tape : 4; Side : B; Approx. Time Counter : 16.6-17.7}

Ann Lynch, Montana Child Care Association, asked the Committee to support the child care funding for quality child care.

{Tape : 4; Side : B; Approx. Time Counter : 17.7-19.0}

Christy Hill Larson, Montana Association for the Education of Young Children, supports the proposed Early Childhood Services proposed budget.

{Tape : 4; Side : B; Approx. Time Counter : 19-20.6}

John Phils, Headstart director in Hamilton, offered his support to everything that was said. **Mr. Phils** stressed the need to find the \$1.7 million to draw down the child care development fund.

{Tape : 4; Side : B; Approx. Time Counter : 20.7-25.5}

Gene Leuwer, Executive Director of Rocky Mountain Development Council, agreed with much that had previously been said and presented his written statement **EXHIBIT(jhh32a32)**. He briefly went over some changes that he recommends in Head Start eligibility, the period of eligibility for CCDF/FAIM and the requirement of another adult in the home.

{Tape : 4; Side : B; Approx. Time Counter : 25.6}

Barb Mayhew, Montana Child Care Resource and Referral Network, stressed the need to be good stewards of the TANF resources. She praised the Department's ability to bring all those involved together to work on new and creative ideas.

Further testimony was submitted from **Steve Yeakel** representing Montana's ten Human Resource Development Councils and supporting the DPHHS budget proposal **EXHIBIT(jhh32a33)**. **Mr. Yeakel** also submitted a statement of support for the full request of the Early Childhood Services Bureau from the Montana Council for Maternal and Child Health **EXHIBIT(jhh32a34)**.

ADJOURNMENT

Adjournment: 12:10 P.M.

REP. DAVE LEWIS, Chairman

SYDNEY TABER, Secretary

DL/ST

EXHIBIT (jhh32aad)